

Alabama: Burden of Chronic Diseases, 1996

Cardiovascular Diseases

- Of all states, Alabama had the sixth highest rate of death due to cardiovascular diseases in 1996.
- Cardiovascular diseases were the most common cause of death, accounting for 41% of all deaths.
- Ischemic heart disease accounted for 6,663 deaths, or 16% of all deaths.
- Of all states, Alabama had the eighth highest rate of death due to stroke.

Cancer

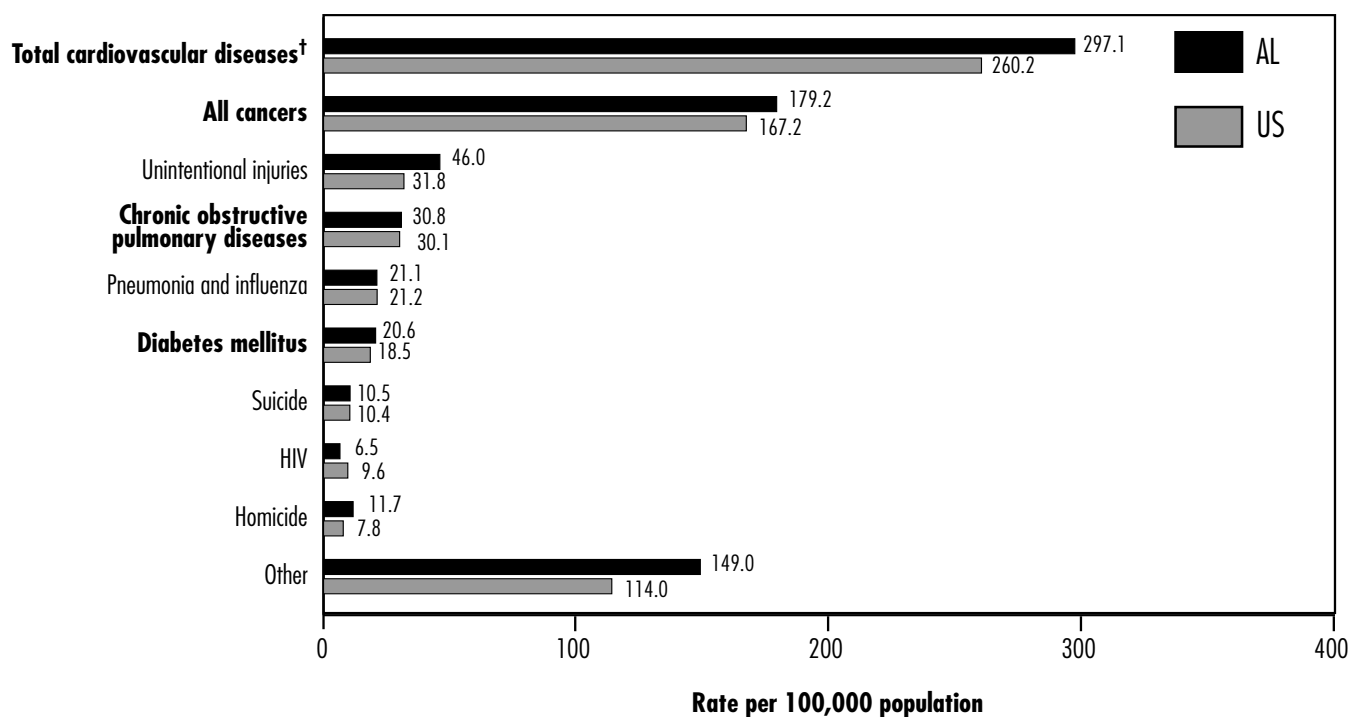
- Cancer accounted for 22% of all deaths in Alabama 1996.
- Rates of death from lung cancer were 148% higher among men than women.
- Rates of death from breast cancer were 56% higher among black women than among white women.

- The American Cancer Society estimates that 21,000 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Alabama in 1999, including 2,900 new cases of lung cancer, 1,600 new cases of colorectal cancer, 3,100 new cases of prostate cancer, and 2,500 new cases of breast cancer in women.
- The American Cancer Society estimates that 9,700 Alabama residents will die of cancer in 1999.

Diabetes

- In 1996, 301,039 Alabama adults had diagnosed diabetes.
- Diabetes was the underlying cause of 1,135 deaths and a contributing cause of an additional 1,822 deaths.
- Rates of death from diabetes were 163% higher among blacks than among whites.

Causes of Death, Alabama Compared With United States, 1996*



*Deaths per 100,000, age adjusted to 1970 total U.S. population.

†Total cardiovascular disease rates include rates of death due to ischemic heart disease (116.4 per 100,000 in Alabama and 131.0 per 100,000 in the United States) and rates of death due to stroke (47.8 per 100,000 in Alabama and 42.0 per 100,000 in the United States).

Alabama: Risk Factors and Preventive Services, 1997 and 1998

Risk Factors Among Adults

- In 1998, 26% of whites and 20% of blacks in Alabama reported current cigarette smoking.
- No leisure-time physical activity was reported by 34% of women and 26% of men.
- In all racial and ethnic groups, more than 70% of Alabama residents reported eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day.
- Alabama had the highest percentage of adults classified as overweight according to self-reported height and weight.

Risk Factors Among High School Students

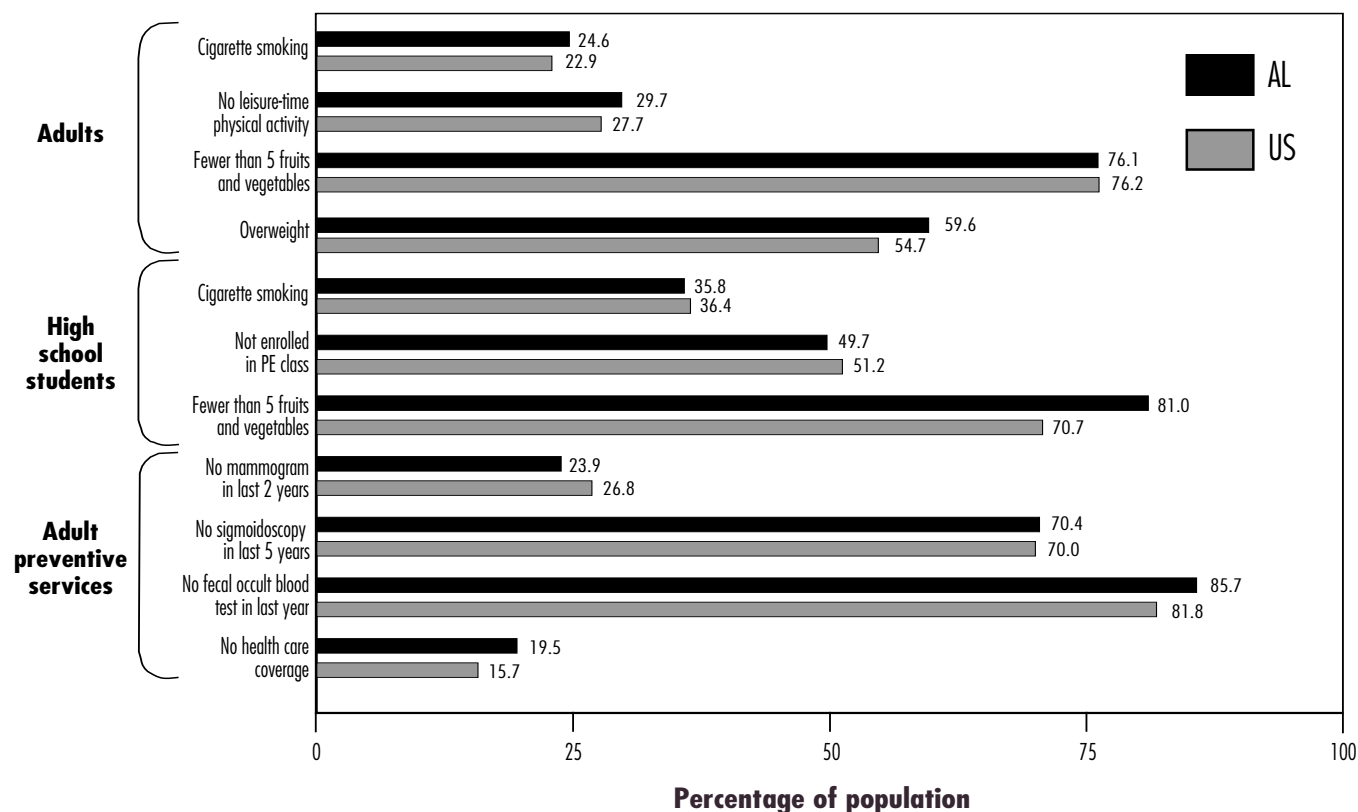
- In 1997, smoking cigarettes was reported by 41% of white students in Alabama, compared with 24% of black students.
- Not being enrolled in physical education classes was reported by 57% of female and 42% of male students.

- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 83% of female and 79% of male students.

Preventive Services

- Among women aged 50 years or older, 28% of blacks and 22% of whites reported not having had a mammogram within the last 2 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 75% of women and 64% of men reported not having had a sigmoidoscopy within the last 5 years.
- Of all states, Alabama had the sixth highest percentage of adults aged 50 years or older who reported not having had a fecal occult blood test within the last year.
- Among adults aged 18–64 years, no health care coverage was reported by 30% of blacks, compared with 17% of Hispanics and 14% of whites.

Risk Factors and Preventive Services, Alabama Compared With United States



Source: CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1997 and 1998.
CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 1997.